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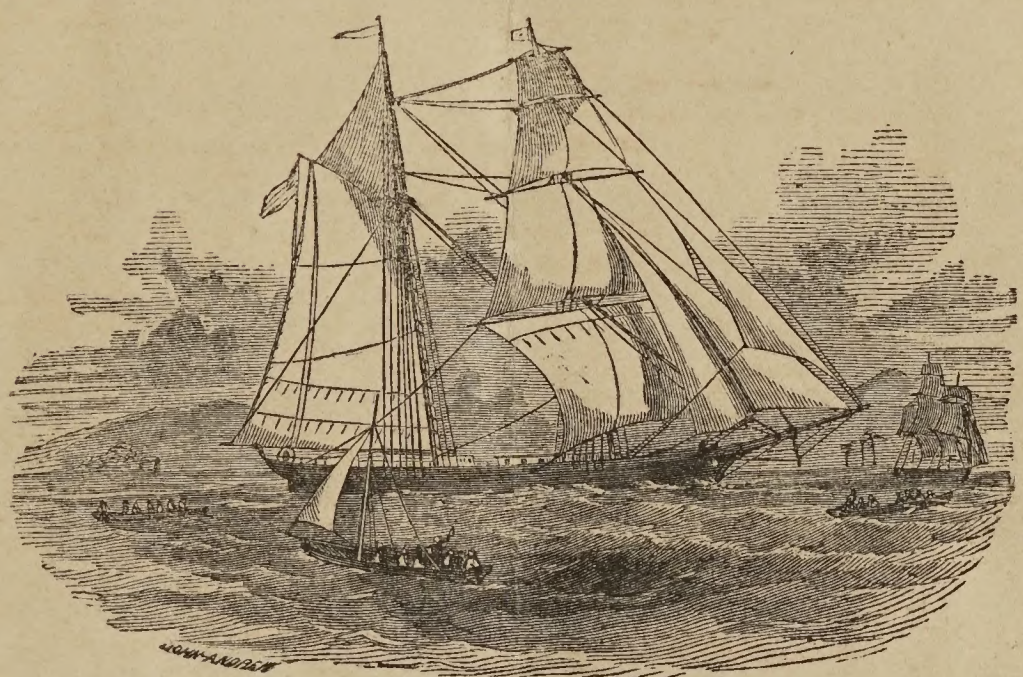

THE MORNING STAR.

MISSIONARY RESEARCH
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MISSIONARY PACKET MORNING STAR.

The Board sent its first missionaries to the Sandwich Islands in the autumn of 1819. That entire group is now Christian. But two or three thousand miles in a south-westerly direction, are numerous clusters of islands, extending through forty degrees of longitude and more than twenty degrees of latitude, all of them north of the equator, except a part of the Kingsmill group. This section of the Pacific has been called "Micronesia." The islands are numerous, but small, as the name indicates. The principal groups are Kingsmill, Marshall, Caroline and Ladrones. Since 1852, missions have been established on two islands, distant from each other about three hundred miles, known by the names of "Strong" and "Ascension." The native name of the former is "Oualan," of the latter, "Ponape."

There being no reliable means of communication with those parts of the world, it became necessary, if

those missions were to be sustained and others established, that the Board should have a vessel at its command, to visit and explore those remote seas, and lend its aid in many ways. Accordingly, at the request of the Sandwich Islands and Micronesia Missions, it was resolved to build a missionary packet of about one hundred and fifty tons burthen. One of this size, it was thought, would be better adapted to its purpose, than one of larger dimensions. In three months from the signing of the contract, she was launched from the ship-yard of Mr. Jotham Stetson in Chelsea, near Boston. In the opinion of competent judges, Mr. Stetson deserves much credit for the beauty of her model, and the thoroughness of the work.

The "launch" was an occasion to be remembered by all who witnessed it. More than three thousand persons were thought to be present—perhaps four thousand—men, women and children—the latter having a "clear majority." Her name, the "Morning Star," is significant of the work she is to do, as the herald of a brighter day soon to dawn on those "dark places of the earth."

When it had been decided to build, an "appeal" was issued to the "children and youth" connected with those Reformed Dutch, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches which sustain the Board, to furnish the requisite funds. The estimated cost was a

little over twelve thousand dollars; the actual cost, including extra sails and some items of outfit, was a little over thirteen thousand dollars. The sum needed was divided into one hundred and twenty thousand shares, at ten cents each, and a certificate was provided for purchasers of one or more shares. It was also intimated, as a desirable thing, that all the shares should be taken by the first of December, when the missionary packet was expected to sail. With admirable promptness the suggestion was carried out. On the day mentioned, more than fourteen thousand dollars had been received, and the tide had not begun to ebb. And now, at the close of January, 1857, two months after the date of her departure, the receipts amount to $26,500.

She sailed from India wharf, Boston, the second day of December, 1856, at ten o'clock, A. M., and went down the harbor with a fair wind, under the command of Capt. Samuel G. Moore, with first and second officers, steward and six seamen, all selected with much care. Before reaching Cape Cod, she encountered an easterly storm which compelled her to cast anchor near Race Point. But though in considerable peril, she rode out the gale without receiving the slightest injury, and then went on her way. It has been, with some, a matter of surprise that she did not run into Provincetown harbor. But this was impossible at the time

she cast anchor; and when, subsequently, the wind changed and became a gale from the north-west, she was so near the breakers, that she could not leave her position without aid from a steamer.

She took out as passengers Rev. Hiram Bingham, Jr., and his wife, who are destined to Micronesia as missionaries of the American Board. Mr. Bingham is the only son of Rev. Hiram Bingham, one of the first company of missionaries to the Sandwich Islands, who sailed from Boston thirty-seven years ago. The father was present at the embarkation of his son, and assisted in the religious services held on the occasion. This son was born at the Sandwich Islands, but educated in this country. His wife was Miss Minerva C. Brewster, of Northampton, Mass. Mrs. Jackson, wife of the Postmaster at Honolulú, with her little child, was also a passenger in the Morning Star.

The names of the captain, officers and crew of the missionary packet, Morning Star, may be of some interest to the owners, and are as follows:

Samuel G. Moore, Putnam Co., N. Y., Captain.
Peter F. Provost, Belgium, 1st Officer.
Thomas Johnson, Denmark, 2d Officer.
Andrew W. Norris, New York, Steward.
N. W. Frost, Dover, N. H., Seaman.
George Cummings, Scotland, Seaman.
David Ehler, Nova Scotia, Seaman.
John Pomeroy, Brixham, Devon, England, Seaman.
John Moody, Malden, Mass., Seaman.
Charles E. Moore, Middletown, Ct., Seaman.

When the Packet has reached the Sandwich Islands, the seamen will be discharged to make room for native Hawaiians as sailors.

Should she survive the "perils of the sea," she is to have her head-quarters at Honolulu. From thence she will in due time sail for Micronesia, and with some well qualified missionaries on board, will make an exploring trip among the islands, and may reasonably be expected to furnish the world with some valuable information in regard to those remote and interesting regions, so rarely visited by civilized man.

The following stanzas, first published in the "Journal of Missions" for October last, have some historical interest in this connection.

THE MISSIONARY SHIP.

A VISION.

I see a bright and beauteous thing,
  Whatever it may be;
It seems a bird with snowy wing,
  Skimming along the sea.

It sheds a radiance all around;
  Old ocean sweetly smiles;
The waves leap up with joyful bound,
  And hail the distant Isles.

The winds are wafting it along,
  It moves right on its way;
It hath a message, hath a song;
  It will not, cannot stay.

Ten thousand little cherubs play
  Above it and about,
And in their own sweet cherub way,
  Utter a cheering shout.

This blessed little ship they love;
  It is the "Morning Star,"
Freighted with tidings from above,
  And cometh from afar.

'Tis bound for Islands fair and bright,
  Embosomed in the sea;
It carries love, it carries light,
  Salvation great and free.

Beloved youth, and children dear,
  Came with their little stores,
And built this ship, with right good cheer,
  To bless those distant shores.

Is this a vision of the night?
  Kind children, what say you?
Ten thousand tongues, and faces bright,
  Reply, "We'll make it true." P.

MISSION SCHOOL ENTERPRISE.

We sincerely thank our young friends, the stockholders in the "Morning Star," for their kindness, and promptness, and generosity. They have done nobly. For this enterprise nothing more is needed. We would now call their attention to a new project.

The schools for the children and youth in the missions, cost about $50,000 a year. Now we have divided this SCHOOL FUND into five hundred thousand shares of ten cents each. If they should all be taken, then we have the $50,000. We ask, then, will not our young friends, the stockholders in the "Morning Star," and others, just put their little shoulders to this great wheel? Will they not be so kind as to show their fathers, and mothers, and Sabbath school teachers, and every body else, how little rain-drops from the clouds, and little rivulets from the mountains, can become great rivers, and whirl rapidly round the mightiest engines ever built by man? What a beautiful sight it would be, to see the children and youth of this blessed land, sending the knowledge of the CHILDREN'S FRIEND to the poor ignorant children and youth in the dark places of the earth! Surely it would make angels glad; and the gracious Savior himself would be pleased, just as he was when the children in the temple cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David." Shall it be done? If so, we have $50,000.

The certificate for stockholders in this new enterprise is about as large as the previous one, but much more beautiful. The little picture on the top of it represents, on one side, a group of heathen children

at school, some sitting on the ground, as they do in Asia, with books in their hands, and some standing up with turbans on their heads. On the other side of the picture is a group of American children, some older and some younger, who have come with their donations to help on the heathen schools. Between the two groups stands the missionary, who is receiving the gifts from the children and youth of America, and passing them over to the children and youth of heathen lands. In the back ground, a little way off, is seen the "Morning Star" at anchor, with her sails furled. She has arrived, and the missionary has begun his work, and he wants means to carry on his schools. Will you help him? Still further off, in the back ground of the picture, the glorious Sun is rising up and shooting his beams in all directions. The picture is small, but all these things are there, and some other things which I have not mentioned.

Fifty Thousand Dollars sounds rather large, to be sure; but then, there are a great many beloved children and youth between Maine and Minnesota—or more properly between the Atlantic and the Pacific. If they should all take hold together, we incline to think the "great wheel" will begin to move round very soon, and without much difficulty; and possibly, by the end of next December, if not before, the shares will all be taken.

Missionary House, Boston, Feb. 5, 1857.

Am. Board of Coms. for Foreign Missions.

GATHER THE CHILDREN.
JOEL. 2. 16.

$ _____ Shares _____

ISAIAH 43. 6. BRING MY SONS FROM FAR,

MY DAUGHTERS FROM THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

This certifies that _____ has contributed
the sum of _____ for the

MISSION SCHOOL ENTERPRISE.

MISSIONARY HOUSE BOSTON, 1857.

James W. Gordon, TREASR.

THAT CHILDREN WHICH HAVE NOT KNOWN MAY HEAR AND LEARN TO FEAR THE LORD THEIR GOD. DEUT. 31. 13.

The following hymn was written in November, 1819, by Mr. William B. Tappan, on occasion of the departure of the first missionaries to the Sandwich Islands, and was sung at the Islands in 1852, when the first missionaries to Micronesia were about to sail from Honolulu.

Wake, Isles of the South! your redemption is near;
No longer repose on the borders of gloom;
The Strength of His chosen in love will appear,
And light shall arise on the verge of the tomb.

The billows that gird ye, the wild waves that roar,
The zephyrs that play when the ocean-storms cease,
Shall bear the rich freight to your desolate shore,
Shall waft the glad tidings of pardon and peace.

On the Islands that sit in the regions of night,
The lands of despair, to oblivion a prey,
The Morning will open with healing and light,
The glad Star of Bethlehem will usher the Day.

The altar and idol in dust overthrown,
The incense forbade that was offered in blood,
The Priest of Melchisedeck there shall atone,
And the shrines of Hawaii be sacred to God!

The heathen will hasten to welcome the time,
The day-spring the prophet in vision once saw,
When the beams of Messiah shall gladden each clime,
And the Isles of the Ocean shall wait for his law.

And thou Obookiah! now sainted above,
Wilt rejoice as the heralds their mission disclose;
And the prayer will be heard that the land thou didst love,
May blossom as Sharon, and bud as the rose!

The following donations for the "Morning Star," had been received from the several States and Territories, and other sources, on the 31st of January, 1857.

MAINE,	$1,701 09
NEW HAMPSHIRE,	1,187 77
VERMONT,	981 74
MASSACHUSETTS,	6,690 01
CONNECTICUT,	2,796 24
RHODE ISLAND,	409 98
NEW YORK,	5,928 19
NEW JERSEY,	1,277 89
PENNSYLVANIA,	1,293 94
DELAWARE,	72 70
MARYLAND,	37 00
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,	64 45
VIRGINIA,	64 60
OHIO,	1,132 35
INDIANA,	327 14
ILLINOIS,	1,031 48
MICHIGAN,	398 51
WISCONSIN,	267 28
IOWA,	205 74
MISSOURI,	96 33
ARKANSAS,	5 00
LOUISIANA,	50 10
MISSISSIPPI,	50 00
ALABAMA,	8 50
GEORGIA,	22 45
SOUTH CAROLINA,	7 00
NORTH CAROLINA,	4 00
TENNESSEE,	76 79
KENTUCKY,	13 85
CALIFORNIA,	61 08
MINNESOTA TERRITORY,	37 55
NEBRASKA TERRITORY,	1 00
FOREIGN LANDS AND MISSIONARY STATIONS,	275 42
	$26,577 17